



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/867,508 | 05/29/2001 | David Boreham | 13220.0200001 | 7420 |
| 32615 | 7590 | 10/01/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| OSHA & MAY L.L.P./SUN 1221 MCKINNEY, SUITE 2800 HOUSTON, TX 77010 | | | LU, KUEN S | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2177 | |

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/867,508

Applicant(s)

BOREHAM ET AL.

Examiner

Kuen S Lu

Art Unit

2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by OraAdm (Oracle7 Administrator's Guide, Release 7.3, February 1996, Oracle®, hereafter "OraAdm").

As per claims 1 and 6, OraAdm teaches "creating an enumerated role by assigning a plurality of entries to the enumerated role, whereby the plurality of entries possess the enumerated role" (See Pages 20-8 and 20-12 to 20-14 wherein OraAdm's enumerated roles are created and assigned with entries by being granted with privileges, and further the roles are granted to other roles or users to possess is equivalent to Applicant's creating an enumerated role by assigning a plurality of entries to the enumerated role, whereby the plurality of entries possess the enumerated role);

"determining what entries possess the enumerated role" (See Page 19-21 wherein OraAdm's dba_role_privs view provides information on entries with enumerated roles assigned is equivalent to Applicant's determining what entries possess the enumerated role); and

Art Unit: 2177

"providing the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role to a client" (See Pages 20-12 to 20-14 wherein OraAdm's users or roles are granted with enumerated roles is equivalent to Applicant's providing the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role to a client).

As per claims 2 and 7, OraAdm teaches "the enumerated role is possessed by an arbitrary number of entries" (See Pages 20-12 to 20-14 wherein OraAdm's users or roles are granted with enumerated roles is equivalent to Applicant's the enumerated role is possessed by an arbitrary number of entries).

As per claims 3 and 8, OraAdm teaches "if an entry that possesses the enumerated role is a nested role, then rejecting that entry without further processing of the entry" (See Pages 20-12 to 20-14 wherein OraAdm's users or roles are granted with enumerated roles but not granted by self as evidenced by the Examiner's SQL log note as attached below is equivalent to Applicant's if an entry that possesses the enumerated role is a nested role, then rejecting that entry without further processing of the entry).

Note: SQL statement for role self granting:

```
SQL> select * from dba_users where username='KLU';
```

| USERNAME | USER_ID | PASSWORD |
|----------|---------|----------|
|----------|---------|----------|

| | | |
|-------|----|---------------------|
| ----- | | |
| KLU | 61 | 9763CCBAC48DD5F9 .. |

```
SQL> select granted_role from dba_role_privs;
```

| GRANTED_ROLE |
|--------------|
|--------------|

| |
|-------|
| ----- |
|-------|

...

Art Unit: 2177

GATHER_SYSTEM_STATISTICS

DBA

CONNECT

OLAP_DBA

...

116 rows selected.

SQL> grant olap_dba to klu;

Grant succeeded.

SQL> revoke olap_dba from klu;

Revoke succeeded.

SQL> grant olap_dba to olap_dba;

grant olap_dba to olap_dba

*

ERROR at line 1:

ORA-01934: circular role grant detected

SQL> spool off;

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U. S. C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Art Unit: 2177

4. Claims 4-5 and 9-10 are rejected under U. S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over OraAdm (Oracle7 Administrator's Guide, Release 7.3, February 1996, Oracle®, hereafter "OraADM") and in view of Stern et al. (U. S. Publication 2004/0132433, hereafter "Stern").

As per claims 4 and 9, OraADM teaches enumerated role as previously described in claims 1-3 and 6-8 rejections.

OraADM does not teach "a set of expressions and boolean operations for use to match entries in a directory search".

However, Stern teaches directory searches and operation (See the Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the Applicant's invention was made to combine the two references for extending the application of enumerated role to directory services.

As per claims 5 and 10, OraADM further teaches the Boolean operations (See Page 20-26 wherein OraADM's SQL statement includes qualifier where role='SYSTEM_ADMIN' is equivalent to Applicant's equal operator).

5. The prior art made of record

U. Oracle7 Administrator's Guide, Release 7.3, February 1996, Oracle®

A. U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0132433

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

V. iPlanet Directory Server Administrator's Guide, Version 5.0,

Sun Microsystems, Inc. Doc. ID 816-0799-01, April, 2001.


Art Unit: 2177

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kuen S Lu whose telephone number is 703-305-4894.

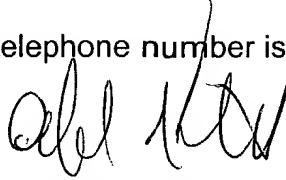
The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Kuen S. Lu

Patent Examiner

September 29, 2004


Alford Kindred

Primary Examiner

September 29, 2004